

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please amend claims 1 and 13 as follows.

1. (Currently amended) An orally administered agent free of a bioadhesive layer, comprising a drug-containing layer and a water-swellaable gel-forming layer, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming layer is provided as an outermost layer of said orally administered agent, and  
the drug of the drug-containing layer is released in a digestive tract.

2. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 1, wherein said orally administered agent is a film-shaped preparation.

3. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 2, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming layer contains a water-swellaable gel-forming agent and a film-forming agent.

4. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 3, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming agent is a cross-linked carboxyvinyl polymer, and said film-forming agent is a polyvinyl alcohol.

5. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 4, wherein said cross-linked carboxyvinyl polymer is a carboxyvinyl polymer cross-linked by a polyvalent metal compound.

6. (Previously presented) The orally administered agent according to claim 3, wherein the content of said water-swellaable gel-forming agent in said water-swellaable gel-forming layer is 15 to 70 wt%, and the content of said film-forming agent in said water-swellaable gel-forming layer is 30 to 85 wt%.

7. (Previously presented) The orally administered agent according to claim 1, wherein said water-swellaable gel-forming layer can mask the taste and/or smell of a drug contained in said drug-containing layer.

8. (Previously presented) The orally administered agent according to claim 1, wherein said drug-containing layer contains an edible polymer as a base.

9. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 8, wherein said edible polymer is cellulose and/or a cellulose derivative.

10. (Previously presented) The orally administered agent according to claim 8, wherein the content of said edible polymer in said drug-containing layer is at least 20 wt%.

11. (Previously presented) An orally administered agent/supporting substrate complex comprising the orally administered agent according to any one of claims 1 to 10, and a

supporting substrate that supports the orally administered agent, wherein said orally administered agent is provided on said supporting substrate either directly or via an intermediate layer.

12. (Previously presented) The orally administered agent/supporting substrate complex according to claim 1, wherein said supporting substrate has a gripping part and a mouth-inserting part, and said orally administered agent is provided on said mouth-inserting part.

13. (Currently amended) An orally administered agent free of a bioadhesive layer comprising a drug-containing layer and a water-swellaable gel-forming layer, ~~wherein~~ said water-swellaable gel-forming layer ~~is~~ being provided as an outermost layer of said orally administered agent, ~~and wherein the agent can be~~ being swallowed without getting stuck in a trachea, and the drug of the drug-containing layer being released in a digestive system.